



the Tarpaper



The Tarflower Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Volume XX • November 2013

NOVEMBER 5 PROGRAM Green Deane's Edible Revenge

It wasn't all that long ago when any self-respecting Floridian had first hand knowledge of the plants around them and their practical applications. What herbaceous thing could be simmered for tea to sooth a baby's tummy? And which berries were best boiled into preserves to slather on bread hot out of the oven? Alas, that folkloric knowledge has been all but lost in the era of a Publix in every neighborhood where people pick up their meals from to-go eateries on the way home from work.



Fortunately for us Deane Jordan, professionally known as Green Deane, had a mother with a family tradition of passing foraging knowledge from one generation to another. She sent him to gather dandelions when he was just knee-high to a grasshopper. While doing that he noticed wild strawberries, and later came to know checkerberries, raspberries, apples and roses. His mother foraged, as did his grandmother and great grandmother. He learned about plants long before he learned what their names were.

Deane started to give wild food presentations about 20 years ago. Towards that end he created an "itemizing" system to help beginners not only organize information but to give them a successful method to investigate a plant and make sure key points are covered. Nearly all of his plant articles are organized with his system in mind. A few years ago, he started making wild edible videos for friends. That has made Green Deane YouTube's most watched forager in the world. He teaches about wild edibles full time with the goal of helping people who want to know more about foragables to enjoy the process and be safe while doing so.

Deane Jordan holds a degree in education, summa cum laude, from the University of Maine and did two years of graduate study in communications at the University of Central Florida. He is the author of two published books and is an award-winning writer and photographer. Besides being a life-long professional musician, his interests include cooking, cast netting, canoeing, kayaking, dancing and visiting relatives in Greece.

NOVEMBER 9 FIELD TRIP Edible plant forage in Mead Garden with Green Deane

Following his edible plant program, Green Deane will lead an edible plant forage through Mead Botanical Garden in Winter Park. Deane will locate, identify, crush, smell and taste edible natives and non-natives. Mead Garden has a particularly large diversity of edible plants in several habitats, many of which can be found in one's backyard.

Meet on Saturday, November 9 at 9:00a.m. at the east end of the parking lot in front of the Winter Park Garden Club building. The hike will last about three hours and is limited to 24 people, so a sign-up list will be available at the Tarflower meeting. The cost is \$10.00 per person. Tennis shoes or hiking boots are recommended. Bring a small spiral notebook to take notes if you wish. To bone up on plants before and after the trip, search Deane's website at www.eattheweeds.com. There are more than 1,000 plants treated there, and Deane has made over 130 YouTube videos about preparation, identification, history and practical tips mostly about plants that grow in Florida.

Mead Garden is located at 1300 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park, FL 32789. For directions, visit www.meadgarden.org/visit.

Master Gardener Plant Sale – Thank you, Tarflower Members!

by Amanda Martin

The Master Gardener sale was a big success and I would like to thank all of our plant material contributors:

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Julie Becker | Bunker Hill | Randy Snyder |
| Ron Blair | Marge Holt | Bob Stamps |
| Kristie Born | Jackie Rolly | Jackie Sward |
| Teresa Chin | Chuck Roux | Richard Poole |

Some of our growers were able to corral the material together before the event, while some brought their plants directly to the sale that morning. With an updated Google Drive spreadsheet, Jackie Rolly was able to print out plant labels before the sale, and Pete and Phyllis made category signs for our display. We sold all small 4-inch containers for \$1, medium 1-gallon containers for \$3, and large 3-gallon containers for \$5.



Using plant material donated by our members allowed us to keep our costs down and our profits up—We grossed over \$800 at this plant sale! It was very encouraging to tell the public how these native plants would benefit their yard as well as having the credibility of coming straight from our members' yards. Many volunteers came throughout the day, assisting with explanations, suggestions and enthusiasm. Thank you everyone for helping to make this sale a success!



September 14 field trip to Tosohatchee with Cuplet Fern Chapter by Pete Dunkelberg



swallowtail on *Liatris*

I showed up bright and early Saturday morning to lead Cuplet Fern's excursion to Tosohatchee, expecting at least eight people. More than twenty came, many of them on their first native plant trip. We got going by about 9:30 and went to our first stop, the corner of St. Nicholas Road and Powerline Road.

We parked in the freshly graveled parking area northeast of the corner and headed across to the southwest field, then into a field of waist-high vegetation replete with strange and/or beautiful flowers. Most prominent were the many *Liatris spicata* (common name gayfeather or blazing star) and of course, butterflies. There

were also lots of the puzzling rayless sunflowers. Evidently when the bud first opens it doesn't have disk or ray flowers. Then there were *Xyris* (yellow-eyed "grass"), thistles, morning glories and more.

After everyone had taken this in and asked many questions of experienced Cuplet Fern members and myself, we moved on to our next stop to see pine lilies a short way west on Powerline Road. To get close to these we had to cross a not quite dry ditch. The crossing was made pleasant by the skyflowers underfoot. Most of the group made the crossing. Then we got back to our cars and were off to the deep woods.

We went down a side road that ended in a small parking area, then walked along a narrow trail into the comparative darkness of a closed canopy. And that's when we left the trail—at least some of us did. All had been advised beforehand, I hope, to expect to get their feet wet. Perhaps they couldn't believe I really meant wet. In any case, a few inches of swamp water was too much for some. Most people from town just aren't used to swamp water. Some followed me though and saw the very rare hand fern.

By the time we got back to our cars it was close to noon. Cuplet Fern Chapter doesn't take lunch on field trips, and my suggestion to do so had not been passed on. Everyone expected to leave at noon. Just five elected to continue on with me. We went south on Fish Hole Road to the area of Jim Creek and the bordering swamp forest. Here we found the very thorny water locust tree as well as other expected trees and *Tillandsia* species. Just as I was ready to turn back toward the road, Jon Pospisil of Lake Beautyberry Chapter noticed a tree farther back with flagging tape around it. We went back to it and there was another hand fern. That will be a better one to show people as long as the creek isn't high.

With just a brief stop for another group of pine lilies, we went on to Lake Charlie and a break at the picnic tables. Then the group was ready for one more native plant adventure. I took them down another road and across a foot bridge to a cypress tree with at least five of Florida's tiniest orchids. I had no trouble finding these because Chuck Roux had pointed them out the Thursday before. And that brings me to what happened in the days before the trip.

On Monday I went to Tosohatchee to check things out. It was a disappointing day. Very little was blooming and I couldn't get through to

non-flowering points of interest because of high water across the roads. I couldn't get near Jim Creek nor any hand ferns. I asked Chuck to go back with me on Thursday. Chuck is superb at spotting interesting plants large and small. We arrived just after 8 a.m. and as soon as we got inside, I could see that things had changed. More things were blooming right on Beehead Road and it was drier. Then along St. Nicholas Road the *Liatris* were starting to open en masse. This was a great relief. Then we went the length of Fish Hole Road with no problems, but of course we made some stops.

We had lunch at Lake Charlie. As we finished lunch, two of the Tosohatchee staff were just coming in from finishing the road beyond. They stopped to talk a minute and assure me that I could get to all the places I had tried to get to Monday. We decided to continue on to the cut-throat grass slough which we had never seen before.

Then I showed Chuck the other road leading to the foot bridge; he hadn't been there before. He decided to check that cedar tree and very quickly found the first jingle bell orchid. Then while I tried to see it he went around the tree and found some more.

The field back on St. Nicholas Road where so many *Liatris* had started blooming just in time had been burned back in April. That can lead to a mass blooming of *Liatris* about this time, and that's what must have happened. Another few hundred *Liatris* of a different species, *L. chapmanii*, were set to bloom in a week or so (and should have by now). With help from nature, Chuck, and the very efficient



skyflower (*Hydrolea corymbosa*)



pine lily (*Lilium catesbaei*)



rayless sunflower (*Helianthus radula*)

Tosohatchee staff, I felt prepared to give Cuplet Fern a fine field trip. And then my plan turned out to be inappropriate for the very good group that showed up.

2014 Endowment Grant Research Awards and Conservation Grant Awards

FNPS maintains an Endowment Research Grant program for the purpose of funding research on native plants. Grants are \$1500 or less, awarded for a 1-year period, and intended to support research that forwards the FNPS mission, which is "to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida."

FNPS Conservation Grants support applied native plant conservation projects in Florida. These are small grants (\$1500 or less) awarded for a 1-year period. These projects promote the preservation, conservation,

or restoration of rare or imperiled native plant taxa and rare or imperiled native plant communities. To qualify for a Conservation Grant, the proposed project must be sponsored by an FNPS Chapter.

Application guidelines and details are on the FNPS Web site (www.fnps.org), click on 'Participate/Grants and Awards'. Questions regarding the grant programs should be sent to info@fnps.org. Application deadline for the 2014 Awards is March 7, 2014. Awards will be announced at the May 2014 Annual Conference in Fort Myers. Awardees do not have to be present at the Conference to receive award.

September 14 field trip to Warea Tract *by Tina Richards, photos by Amanda Martin*

One of my many passions is studying and observing endangered and threatened plant species. It is amazing to me that these species can persist and dominate a habitat for centuries, but in a few short decades (give or take), that niche can be altered drastically. We have the privilege of enjoying their beauty and services, and yet (the state of Florida feels) an authorization to alter their abundance.

The Warea Tract is 120 acres of mostly sandhill, located on the northern end of the Lake Wales Ridge, just west of Orlando near Ocoee and Clermont area. It is managed by the Seminole State Forest. During our September field trip, Tarflower members had the privilege of seeing and photographing the endangered *Warea amplexifolia*, or wide-leaf warea. *Warea* is a federally endangered endemic species. Its range used to be throughout Central Florida, specifically from Osceola north through Orange County, but it is currently limited to small islands speckled throughout Lake and Polk counties.

Michael Martin with the Florida Forest Service graciously joined us as our guide in this unfamiliar location, not open or available to the public. Mike opened the large gates and

our four-wheel drive vehicles proceeded down the overgrown path. After the first few stops, we were still hunting for *Warea* when I observed that the area was dominated by oak species (*Quercus*). Mike informed us that fire suppression has led to the alteration of the ecosystem, transitioning from an open pine flatwoods to an oak hardwood hammock. The shade of the oaks does not allow *Warea* and other sandhill species to persist. It is understandable that many of our members don't like to see the death of trees, specifically oak trees, however, this site was secured by the state to insure that *Warea* had a place to be conserved. Since *Warea* are historically found in grassy meadows, oaks and *Warea* are not necessarily compatible with each other. The Florida Forest Service has their work cut out for them because once the oaks begin to grow it is exceptionally difficult to get the ecosystem-defining fire to carry across the landscape. They have begun to remedy that problem by having contractors girdle and kill the older oak trees on the site. The goal is to restore the area back to the meadow-like landscape it once was to allow the persistence of this endangered species.

Habitat loss is the main culprit of the demise of the *Warea*. The Warea Tract bordered on one side by a sand mine and on other sides by burgeoning residential development. Habitat quality and quantity are usually part of the systemic problem that leads to endangered and threatened species. In this instance, the ecosystem dynamic, or quality of the habitat has shifted from grasslands to oaks due to fire suppression, and the sheer quantity of remaining habitat has diminished. As nature-loving botanists, our hope is to have biodiversity abound within our state. The best way for land managers to achieve that goal is to introduce fire in appropriate areas, such as the Warea Tract.



Some of the wildflowers blooming at the Warea Tract include tall ironweed (*Veronia angustifolia*) (top); clasp warea (*Warea amplexifolia*) (middle); and palafoxia (*Palafoxia sp.*) (bottom).



Tarflower members on the hunt for clasp warea and other blooming beauties.

UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FEB 8-13 2014 67TH SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING, TECHNICAL TRAINING AND TRADE SHOW

This year's theme is "From Dusty Trails to Waning Wetlands" to bring drought and water management, a problem we are all so familiar with, to the forefront of the meeting.

Where: Caribe Royale Hotel, Orlando

For more information and to register, visit <http://rangelands.org/orlando2014/>.

FEB 15 2014 ORLANDO WETLANDS FESTIVAL—SAVE THE DATE!

Watch this spot for more information about this family-friendly day of fun and learning held every year at the Orlando Wetlands Park in Fort Christmas. Consider volunteering at the Tarflower Chapter booth!

MAR 1 2014 LAKE APOPKA WILDLIFE FEST & BIRDAPALOOZA!

Come out for this celebration of the rich diversity of birds and other wildlife that make their home on the north shore of Lake Apopka, Florida's third-largest lake! For more information, visit www.birdapalooza.com.

MAY 13-18 2014 2014 FNPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE—GROWING NATIVE

FNPS' 2014 annual conference will be held at the Florida Gulf Coast University in Ft. Myers. Featuring presentations from Dr. Bill Hammond, Dr. Marty Main, Dr. James Wohlpart and Roger Hammer; field trips to some of Southwest Florida's amazing natural areas; and much more! Plus, lodging is available right on campus for \$40/night—and that includes breakfast!

So, pump up your bicycle tires and bring it along and help keep our carbon footprint low! Coccoloba, along with Mangrove and Naples Chapters, look forward to "Growing Native" with you this spring!



Tarflower Chapter meetings Chapter meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at HARRY P. LEU GARDENS (1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando. For directions, call 407-246-2620, option 1). The next meeting is Tuesday, October 1 at 7pm. See you there!

Tarflower website <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/>

The Tarpaper online Current and past issues of *The Tarpaper* can be viewed online by accessing the Newsletters tab of the chapter website at <http://tarflower.fnpschapters.org/>.

Contribute to The Tarpaper Send your articles, event listings, photos and suggestions to Stacey Matrazzo, Editor, at stacey@impactpress.com. (Please do not reduce or compress photos before sending; a size of 3x4 at 300dpi is preferred.) **The submission deadline for the December 2013 issue is November 14.**

Tarflower Chapter Executive Committee meetings The next board meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 6pm. For more information, contact Amanda Martin. Members are welcome.

Tarflower Chapter Executive Committee members

- President** Amanda Martin (ajm.fnps@gmail.com)
- Vice President, Programs** Kay Hudson (407-432-2364; Kay@americanbuilders.com)
- Vice President, Events** Jim Erwin (407-454-3882; jim.erwin@wellsfargo.com)
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- Chapter Representative** Julie Becker (jlbecker@cfl.rr.com)
- Field trips** Tina Richards (ktina.richards@gmail.com)
- Membership** Phyllis Gray (407-253-5462; Phyllis.Gray@amec.com)
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- Conservation** Carolina Lane (carolina@mindspring.com)
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- The Tarpaper Editor** Stacey Matrazzo (stacey@impactpress.com)
- The Tarpaper Mailing** Chuck Roux (407-851-8889; clroux@bellsouth.net)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- NOV 5 – Green Deane’s Edible Revenge
- DEC 2 – Holiday Social with Native Plant Jeopardy
- JAN 7 – Florida’s Naval Stores presented by Marty Hale

***Important: December meeting date change** Due to our previously considered change in meeting venues, we lost our December 3 spot and are **moving the meeting to Monday, December 2**. All other meetings will be held as usual on the first Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

- NOV 9 – Edible field trip with Green Deane

BECOME A MEMBER

Make checks payable to:
Florida Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 278 • Melbourne, FL 32902-0278

\$35 Individual	\$75 Contributing
\$50 Family/Household	\$100 Supporting
\$15 Full-time Student	\$125 Business/Corporate
\$15 Library	\$250 Donor
\$50 Non-Profit	\$1000 Life

To join online or for more information, visit www.fnps.org or call 321-271-6702.

Call for Research Papers and Poster Presentations, 2014 Conference

The Florida Native Plant Society Annual Conference will be held at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida, May 15-18, 2014. The Research Track of the Conference will include presented papers on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. The poster session will be on Saturday May 17.

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on research related to native plants and plant communities of Florida including preservation, conservation, and restoration. Presentations are to be 20 minutes in total length (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions).

Abstracts of not more than 200 words should be submitted as a MS Word file by email to Paul A. Schmalzer paul.a.schmalzer@nasa.gov by February 1, 2014. Include title, affiliation, and address. Indicate whether you will be presenting a paper or poster.



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